

1 INTRODUCTION

This paper examines UN peace-keeping rapid reaction strengths and weaknesses against a matrix of rapid reaction components. **By design, the paper will not make recommendations, but will set out the existing operational parameters and constraints within the UN.** It will also identify planned changes within the UN that will take effect in the short term. In this way, the paper will provide factual background for the Canadian Government's Study on Improving the UN's Rapid Reaction Capacity.

The paper's matrix ¹ of rapid reaction is:

- (Chapter 2) Early Warning, and Intelligence/Information Sharing
- (Chapter 3) Contingency Planning
- (Chapter 4) Preparatory Activity
- (Chapter 5) Political Decision Making
- (Chapter 6) Peacekeeping Doctrine and Mission Mandates
- (Chapter 7) Standby Arrangements
- (Chapter 8) Financing
- (Chapter 9) Multidimensional peacekeeping operations
- (Chapter 10) Training and Standards
- (Chapter 11) Mission Deployment
 - Planning
 - Financial
 - Staffing and Equipment
 - Administration and Logistics
- (Chapter 12) Command and Control

The paper has attempted to separate analysis at four levels: political, strategic, operational, and tactical. This is to facilitate those proposing changes to UN peace-keeping rapid reaction since their recommendations will tend to address the four functional levels separately. Several activity areas such as

¹ This study does not pretend to have set out a comprehensive list, but has set out some of the key components in a relatively logical flow to act as a framework for this analysis of the UN.